

## BEEF STEAK GOES UP.

Smaller Dealers in Meats Suffer a Loss in Trade.

Housekeepers Cannot Afford to Pay the Big Advance.

The Cattle Kings Don't Care If They Make Money.

Indignation over the outrageously high prices for meats, confined a week ago to housewives, is rapidly spreading in all directions. Small dealers in meats are angry at the combine. With steaks ranging from 25 to 30 cents a pound, ribs at 25, and other portions of beef at proportionately high prices, there are thousands of families in the metropolis who are compelled to forego beef in any form. Smaller dealers are losing business.

At Washington Market proprietors of stalls complain that traffic is as dead as the cattle, and they are without profits.

William P. Durando, one of the large handlers of beef, said this morning: "Prices for beef are so high as to be prohibitive to most people, and we are doing little or nothing. I am at a loss to explain the cause. We are told it is because of scarcity of beef, resulting from the loss of the corn crop in some of the Western ranges. A Kansas man who was in attendance on the Cattle-men's Convention was told on Thursday. He said that was the real cause. There are really no cattle, he said, and he did not look for a betterment until the new crop of corn came in.

"Other meats have advanced slightly, but the people do not buy them. I received beef that was priced at 1-2 cents a pound, spring lamb at \$1.50 and \$2 for the fore and hind quarters was never cheaper; Winter lamb is 18 and 10 cents a pound, and mutton is 18 and 10 cents, according to cut. Veal is cheap, too. I never knew it to be lower in price at this season of the year. We offer chops at 18, cutlets at 25 and loins of veal at 18 cents a pound."

Moses Straus, of Joseph Stern's abattoir, formerly Stern's, in the city, said that the highest notch has not been reached in beef prices, but he discredits the idea that the four in Chicago have "cornered" the market.

Michael Gurnin, of 206 Washington street, said gloomily: "If the present high prices continue much longer, many restaurant men must go down. Several have already been forced to close up. Why, loins and ribs of beef that I used to buy for 1-2 cents, now have to pay 16 cents for, and I lose money on every steak served to my customers. They may price as are going higher, too."

Charles Popper, of 123 East Seventy-ninth street, who is interested in Colorado cattle ranches, says: "We are now paying more for beef than in twenty years. First, because there is a scarcity of cattle due to the short corn crop, and secondly, and more principally, because the four big meat houses of Chicago, taking advantage of this scarcity, have cornered the market. The scarcity resulting from the short corn crop was made apparent by the withdrawal of cattle from the market. Thus they made their power felt both ways."

"They fixed an arbitrary price to the cattle raiser for his cattle, and now they are fixing arbitrary prices to the consumer. I think that Armour & Co., the Swifts, Nelson, Morris & Co., and the Washburn-Crosby Co. have cornered all the corn-fed cattle in the West."

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Secretary Morton today said the purpose of putting up prices. The Secretary's letter of instructions for the inquiry is as follows: Dr. D. E. Salmon, chief of Bureau of Animal Industry.

Mr. Furman at his earliest convenience a statement of the number of cattle received at the stock-yards in Kansas City, in 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 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